

West County Road 112 Groundwater Plume
Midland, Texas
January 20, 2010

The site is a groundwater plume of hexavalent chromium located in a rural area of Midland County, Texas.

- Private water wells only, no piped municipal water
- Shallow wells 70 – 100 feet deep
- Hexavalent Chrome range: Non-detect – 5280 ppb
- Cr+6 is a carcinogen, when ingested – causes irritation and ulcers in the stomach, small intestines, and causes anemia.
- About 250 homes in the site area
- About 70 houses sit over the highest concentrations
- People use their wells for all water needs (drinking, cooking, bathing, etc)
- Actual exposure to Cr+6 occurring through ingestion
- Groundwater plume is 1.5 miles x 0.5 miles
- 234 wells sampled by the State
- 44 wells found above MCL (100 ppb) Cr+6
- State installed anion exchange filters on the 44 wells. These systems are very expensive to purchase and maintain. Spent about \$1M on filters, maintenance, and sampling. Some filters are replaced every two weeks. Expenses continue.
- Until the source is identified and the plume controlled, impacts to private drinking water will continue.
- State did a good job so far and worked with the community.
- February 22, Texas sampling to look for source
- Several industries are located within a mile of site, but most have been addressed under Texas cleanup programs. Texas speculates that someone dumped the stuff in a pit on the property with the highest Cr+6 levels. PRP search underway.
- Site area is low income and White. Neighborhood immediately to the east is very poor and Hispanic.
- Site HRS: scores 50 (28.5)
- State wants it listed as soon as possible. State is providing information for the HRS package in preparation for proposing it to the NPL in August.
- We need the Governor's letter by June 1.
- Removal Program is assessing feasibility of installing water lines (estimated over \$3M)
- Design for the water supply is underway. Construction is expected to begin January 2011.
- Construction would take 12-18 months based on challenges with right-of-ways, I-20, coordination with DOT, etc.
- Closest water supply pipeline (City of Midland) is north across I-20.
- Estimated groundwater remedy cost \$10-20M.